

Nursery treatment campaign launched to educate farmers for combating disease problems in Basmati

Reviving Green Revolution (RGR) Cell, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, launched a nursery treatment campaign on July 1, 2010 under the Navajbai Ratan Tata Trust and Government of Punjab sponsored project on 'Promotion of IPM technology in Basmati to boost diversification'.



The nursery treatment campaign was initiated on July 1, 2010 in the adopted villages to produce crop free from 'foot rot' which is a deadly disease and can be controlled only through fungicide treatment of seeds and nursery. This campaign was started from village Kotdharamchand Khurd of Tarn Taran district by Dr Manohar Singh, chief agriculture officer; Dr GS Deol, consultant, RGR Cell, SRTT; and concerned ADOs Dr Amarjit Singh, Dr Kuljit Singh Saini,

and Dr Sarbjit Singh; and field officers, Dr Mandeep Sharma and Ravi Inder Pal were present. In Gurdaspur district the campaign was started from the village Chitti by Dr SK Arri, chief agriculture officer; Dr GS Deol, consultant, RGR Cell; and ADOs Dr Amrik Singh and Mohan Singh; and field officer Sukhpreet Singh Saini was present. In Amritsar district the campaign started from village Nanoke Sudha by Dr Paramjit Singh Sandhu, chief agriculture officer; Dr GS Deol, consultant, RGR Cell; and ADOs Dr Mustinder Singh and Dr Dilbag Singh Sohal; and field officers Mr Satinder Singh and Mr Harpreet Singh Bhullar were also present. The campaign was carried out in all the 150 villages adopted under the IPM Basmati project. The whole process of nursery treatment was given to farmers through method demonstration. The farmers were advised to use the correct method for treating the nursery of Basmati crop by using recommended dose of fungicides i.e., dipping of seedlings for six hours in 100 litres of water containing 200gm of carbondizm. The bio-control agent Tricoderma was also used at the rate of 15 gm /l water for dipping of seedlings for six hours.

Farmers were also persuaded to transplant Basmati nursery in the recommended time i.e., the first fortnight of July for Pusa Basmati 1121 and the second fortnight of July for Basmati 386. The fungicides, Bavistin, was also distributed to adopted Basmati growers in 150 villages.



In all these campaigns farmers were also advised to use only the recommended dose of weedicides. Further ADO / village-level camps are being organised in adopted villages to educate the farmer regarding the judicious use of fertilisers and use of the pesticides only on the basis of ETL.